

Legislation Tracking Report

Friday, August 03, 2007

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
CACR 4	Rep. S. Merrick, Coos 2; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Edwards, Hills 26; Rep. Fontas, Hills 24; Rep. E. Merrick, Coos 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		RELATING TO: funding for public transportation.				2/21/07 ITL MA VV
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Rep. David B Campbell for Public Works and Highways: The committee continues to believe the state does and should support mass transportation where it provides a viable transportation alternative. However, given the critical and worsening condition of New Hampshire’s roads and bridges and the negative impact of spiraling construction costs on maintenance of the highway infrastructure, the committee unanimously believes that expanding the demand on the state highway fund is not appropriate at this time. Vote 16-0.									
HB 039	Rep. Shurtleff, Merr 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT repealing the penalty provision in discretionary preservation easements.				Signed by the Governor on 05/14/07; Eff. Date 01/01/08; Chapter 0027
HB 042	Rep. Lockwood, Merr 6; Rep. Owen, Merr 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT requiring zoning ordinances to encourage preservation or restoration of stone walls.				Signed by the Governor on 05/21/07; Eff. Date 07/20/07; Chapter 0040
HB 061	Rep. Remick, Coos 2; Rep. McLeod, Graf 2; Rep. Sorg, Graf 3; Sen. Gallus, Dist 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT designating segments of the Ammonoosuc River into the rivers management protection program.				Signed by the Governor on 06/11/07; Eff. Date 08/10/07; Chapter 0066
HB 074	Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Ferland, Sull 5; Rep. Butynski, Ches 4; Rep. Parkhurst, Ches 4; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Odell, Dist 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to matching funds for federal disaster assistance for the October 2005 floods and making an appropriation therefor.				3/21/2007 Inexpedient to Legislate, MA DIV 252-55
HB 118	Rep. D. Eaton, Ches 2; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Weber, Ches 2; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Odell, Dist 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT extending the commission to determine the appropriate use of real property destroyed in the October 2005 floods, established in 2006, 256.				Signed by the Governor on 5/2/07; Eff. Date 5/2/07; Chapter 0007
HB 119	Rep. Foster, Hills 4; Rep. Kaen, Straf 7; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT relative to the sunset provision of the system benefits charge.				Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; I.Sec.1 Eff.08/24/07, II.Remainder Eff.06/25/07; Chapter 0208
OUGHT TO PASS. Rep. James M Garrity for Science, Technology and Energy: The system benefits charge is that portion of electric utility bills which is used to fund both energy efficiency and low-income electrical assistance programs. This bill eliminates the sunset provision of the low-income electrical assistance program; the sunset date was scheduled for June 30, 2008. The committee feels that the low-income electrical assistance program is a very effective program which helps many of our neediest fellow citizens with their electrical energy costs. The program is well run and is reviewed at least annually by the Public Utilities Commission and several legislative oversight committees. This beneficial program should be continued at current levels. Vote 10-0.									

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 124	Rep. Berube, Straf 2; Rep. Hofemann, Straf 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT establishing a committee to study enhancing electricity infrastructure.				ITL MA VV
<p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Gene F Andersen for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill seeks to establish a committee looking to the future electrical needs of the state. The committee noted that these issues are being currently reviewed comprehensively by the Energy Policy Commission created by the legislature in the 2006 session with report due December 2007, as well as by the permanent Energy Policy Advisory Board and the Public Utilities Commission. The committee therefor, feels that the intent of this legislation is currently being fully addressed. Vote 13-0.</p>									
HB 165	Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. Powers, Rock 16	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT establishing a committee to study the feasibility of carbon reduction incentives.				4/5/2007 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
<p>HB165</p> <p>Amy - On 3/14 STE voted ITL, concluding the same could be accomplished through another bill (HB 768 or HB 467 I believe. Unanimous.</p>									
HB 198	Rep. Walz, Merr 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to collection of taxes on land with a discretionary easement and relative to the calculation of penalties applied to tax-deeded properties.				Signed by the Governor on 05/21/07; Eff. Date 07/20/07; Chapter 0042
HB 201	Rep. Hall, Hills 5; Rep. B. Williams, Graf 8; Rep. Rous, Straf 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	Mark	AN ACT relative to recycling and reconstituting the recycling market development steering committee.				4/18/2007 H Subcommittee Work Session: 4/24/2007 2:01 PM LOB 303
<p>Attended 2/6 hearing. Focus of bill will be \$1 per ton surcharge on solid waste. Has been proposed several times before, and is probably unconstitutional. Recommend lowering priority. -MT</p>									
HB 237	Rep. Sorg, Graf 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT establishing a committee to study the relationship between land use regulation and the cost of housing.				3/21/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
<p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Robert J Elliott for Municipal and County Government: This issue is very complicated and has been studied and re-studied many times and in many other bills. Such issues are best discussed at local town meetings and school district meetings. The state does not determine local taxes, the local budget does. This bill is superfluous. Vote 14-0.</p>									
HB 255	Rep. Patten, Carr 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Chris	AN ACT establishing a committee to study the implementation and use of growth management ordinances.	1:30 PM	8/15/2007	H-M&CG	Land Use Subcom Work Session: 8/15/07 1:30 PM LOB 301 and 8/28/07 1:30 PM LOB 301
<p>Rep. Patten introduced the bill on behalf of the Home Builder's Association. She would like to amend the bill to extend the reporting time to 11/1/08 to give them time to study the issue and propose legislation. The issue is the use (abuse?) of growth management by some towns as a way to stop growth, not manage it. Paul Morin from the HBA spoke as did Dr. Lisa Shapiro from Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell about the problems they have experienced with some towns and GMOs. The statute (674:22) which is just two lines long and several court cases are all the guidance towns have for GMO's. More is needed such as mandatory annual findings of facts as to whether or not the GMO is still needed. Shapiro stated that OEP was in the process of drafting a model GMO which the committee was please to hear, however Shapiro stated that the solution needs to include many groups and organizations and not rely on an OEP model or anything else as a one size fits all solution. Cordell Johnston from the LGC also spoke and agreed there are instances where towns have perpetual GMO's and also took issue with one statement that GMO's have resulted in a quadrupling of land prices. Local regulations do have an effect on land prices but they are only one of a number of factors which contribute to higher prices.</p>									
HB 258	Rep. Hunter, Hills 7; Rep. R. Day, Hills 7; Rep. Emerton, Hills 7; Rep. Fletcher, Hills 7; Rep. Kurk, Hills 7; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT making an appropriation to the department of safety, bureau of emergency management, to fund a grant to the town of Goffstown for installation of sewer and water systems in areas damaged by flooding in May 2006.				3/21/2007 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
HB 259	Rep. Hunter, Hills 7; Rep. R. Day, Hills 7; Rep. Emerton, Hills 7; Rep. Fletcher, Hills 7; Rep. Kurk, Hills 7; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT making an appropriation to the department of safety, bureau of emergency management, to fund a grant to the town of Goffstown for drainage installation in areas damaged by flooding in May 2006.				3/21/2007 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
HB 295	Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Ryan, Merr 2; Rep. Powers, Rock 16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the definition of biomass and biomass fuel.				3/22/2007 H Retained in Committee
HB 310	Rep. W. Chase, Ches 1; Rep. Knox, Carr 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT allowing municipalities to regulate wind turbines used for home energy production.			H-M&CG	5/23/2007 H ==DATE & TIME CHANGE==Group C Assessing Subcom Work Session: 6/5/2007 1:00 PM LOB 301

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. William V Chase for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill creates a framework for zoning and planning boards of municipalities to address issues regarding the installation of renewable wind energy facilities in their communities. As amended, the bill states that municipalities shall not unreasonably restrict wind tower height or system height through the application of generic ordinances or regulations that do not specifically address small wind energy systems. The "Declaration of Purpose" section of the Planning and Zoning Statute, RSA 672:1 will be amended to read "the installation of solar, wind, or other renewable energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of renewable energy shall not be unreasonably limited by the use of municipal zoning powers or by the unreasonable interpretation of such powers, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare." The bill directs the Office of Energy and Planning to develop a technical bulletin relative to model municipal ordinances for the construction of small wind energy systems. Vote 14-2.

OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Mary R Cooney for Municipal and County Government: Municipalities may now allow the construction of residential wind turbines. This bill helps them by establishing guide lines for height and set backs. Under this bill, municipalities may adopt ordinances to allow these residential uses of wind energy systems consistent with the overall goal of saving energy. As part of this bill the office of energy and planning will develop a technical bulletin relative to model municipal ordinances. Vote 10-2.

HB 320	Rep. Hunt, Ches 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Joe	AN ACT relative to the tax exemption for solar energy systems.				3/21/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------	---	-----	--	--	--	--	---

Joe attended hearing 020707. This bill is worth watching because its fate, or alternatives to legislation to clarify exemptions, will bear on whether there is or will be an effective property tax exemption for solar installations. Short take: This bill is an attempt to prevent solar exemptions from becoming effectively extinct by a "zeroing out" process in property assessment. Committee was confused, as we were, with intent of the bill; some members were also upset that Rindge action appeared to be a clear violation of existing law, denying Hunt the exemption to which he was entitled, and which he had previously received. Rep Hunt clarified, by saying he introduced bill at suggestion of Rindge officials in response to his complaint that his exemption had been abolished by the new assessment method required by RSA 72:27a enacted in 2004. The town's action was prompted by a letter from DRA and sent to many towns with solar exemptions that recommended they rescind the adopted exemption. Rindge officials suggested confusion could be cleared up by legislation, which Rep Hunt had to craft quickly; hence confusing wording. Rep Hunt will get me a copy of the letter. Eventually this deliberation may clarify my confusion and consternation over why a citizen, following my direction, got his town to adopt an exemption using DRA procedures only to be told by DRA that he could not obtain an exemption (I wonder why a citizen/town can run afoul of DRA by following process posted on DRA web site). MCG rep Silva spoke only to question whether this legislation, prompted by one town's situation might in fact cause problems in other towns where procedures for granting exemptions was not an issue. Rep Hunt was interested to hear after the session of the situation I mention above, and wanted me to send a letter to the committee to indicate that Rindge was not the only town with an issue. I told him that so far we were only monitoring. The details of how exemptions had been figured in past and how they are - at least in Rindge - now figured, plus a lot of other relevant information are too extensive to include here. This bill begs the question about fate of exemptions for wind systems and central wood fired systems allowable under related RSAs. Committee also wondered whether best resolution might be through court ruling and/or administrative process. Preliminary recommendation: OEP support measures that clarify exemption adoption procedures, preserve the exemptions and assure that they will not be nullified by "zeroing out" assessment procedures.
More details upon request.

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Anthony F Simon for Municipal and County Government: This proposal would add language to the existing statutory property tax exemption for solar energy systems. The sponsor introduced this bill as a result of a disagreement that he is having with his town regarding his continuing to enjoy the benefit of this exemption at his own home.

There was no testimony that other taxpayers are having the same problem either in this town or any other municipality. The committee did not hear any evidence that this situation illustrates a statewide problem or a need for a legislative change. Rather, this is an individual problem involving one taxpayer and one town. There are ample procedures which already exist by which the sponsor may appeal his assessment or otherwise pursue his grievance. Vote 17-0.

HB 321	Rep. Hinkle, Hills 19; Rep. Manney, Hills 7; Rep. Mack, Hills 1; Rep. Carson, Rock 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to river protection and restoration.				3/27/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
------------------------	--	--------------------------	---	--	--	--	--	--	---

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 331	Rep. Skinder, Sull 1; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Donovan, Sull 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Chris	AN ACT relative to the withholding of building permits in certain cases.	1:30 PM	8/15/2007	H-M&CG	Land Use Subcom Work Session: 8/15/07 1:30 PM LOB 301 and 8/28/07 1:30 PM LOB 301
<p>Chris attended the PH on 3/9/07. This bill would roll back the clock to last year and revise 676:12 back to its original wording prior to HB 1508 last year. That bill amended the statute to allow a limited vesting for developments that were "subject to notice" and allow them to proceed under the land use regulations at the time the notice was sent even if they changed prior to a formal application submission. This vesting would only apply to the 12 month following the end of of the design review phase process (under 676:4, II (b)) provided a formal application was submitted within that time period. As with many bills it seems, the sponsors introduced the bill but knew little of its content or what it means relying instead on others to speak about the specifics. Susan Lawrence from the Unity PB was the prime motivation behind this bill. She spoke of the need to repeal what HB 1508 did last year because there is the potential for developments to get their foot in the door and not be subject to future land use regulation changes for an undetermined amount of time before they ever submit a formal development application. Paul Morin and Ari Pollock from the NH Home Builders and Remodelers Association both spoke in opposition. HB 1508 was passed to level the playing field for developers so they have some degree of certainty about what development regulations they had to comply with. Prior to last year, a developer might come in under design review or formal submission after having spend considerable sums of money on engineering only to be told, sorry, the rules have changed you need to start all over again. With the rules now being temporarily locked in once a notice for a development proposal is sent out, that gives more certainty to developers and establishes a much more definitive point in time from when this certainty begins - the send oing of the notice - rather that the often ellusive acceptance of a formal application. Rep. Kurk spoke in favor. Really more neutral. The committee must make this policy decision whether to give the developers more time as it is now or go back to the old way and give the town more time. Cordell Johnston from the LGC spoke neither in support or opposition. The LGC was in support of HB 1508 last year as it was introduced but did not oppose the final amended version. There is no definition of what constitutes the end of the design review phase which marks the beginning of the 12 moth window. This might be a place for clarification. The statement that a development proposal that is subject to notice is grandfathered forever is just not accurate. The committee asked if he might be interested in drafting something to address this and he gave a lukewarn response.</p>									
HB 335	Rep. Sorg, Graf 3; Rep. Kurk, Hills 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Chris	AN ACT defining “unnecessary hardship” for purposes of zoning variances.	1:30 PM	8/15/2007	H-M&CG	Land Use Subcom Work Session: 8/15/07 1:30 PM LOB 301 and 8/28/07 1:30 PM LOB 301
<p>Chris attended the hearing on 3/9/07. Rep. Kurk introduced the bill. The unnecessary hardship standard, one of the 5 well established variance criteria, has evoloved a lot in the past few years. A ZBA must now determine whether someone is seeking a use variance or an area variance inorder to apply the appropriate hardship standards. Sometimes this is very difficult to determine. Cordell Johnston from the LGC spoke in favor and distributed a summary of variance criteria (the past, presnt and future.) There are 5 variance criteria, four set out in statutory law, one from case law. Most of the focus is on the unnecessary hardship standard. This bill would establish 4 criteria for determining unnecessary hardship and is very close to the criteria established in the Simplex decision. The bill has not been vetted by the Municipal Law section of the Bar Association but it has been given the concurrence by other legal staff in the LGC that this is a good idea and will make things clearer for ZBA's. Board's would no longer have to determine if a variance was "use" or "area" and apply different standards. The bill would in effect overrule the recent Boccia decision. No other speakers in support or opposition.</p>									
HB 354	Rep. Owen, Merr 4; Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. Marsh, Rock 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT establishing a committee to study the feasibility of establishing ecological consumption taxes as a source of revenue for the state.				3/6/07 Inexpedient to Legislate, MA VV
<p>Joe attended 020807 for Mark T. One item of consideration was whether this bill should be merged with HB 165 (feasibility of carbon reduction incentives) that was heard by STE 020607. One sponsor felt that this bill would be the preferred vehicle; but expressed concern that having a single bill might risk losing the concept in the shuffle. This needs to be resolved in the next couple of weeks. As this bill would merely establish a commission, there appeared to be no real opposition to it, though there was much premature discussion as to whether one possible approach or another to actual implementation would raise taxes overall, or whether an emissions tax would be very regressive and how to avoid penalizing lower income people. Co-sponsors and Roy Morrison made the point that establishing some kind of emissions tax would use market forces (as opposed to prohibitions) to achieve desired goals; and that economics history demonstrates this approach yields better, longer lasting results. Other ideas expressed included: A tax approach is not intended to increase taxes overall; and the emissions tax approach would tie economic sustainability to environmental sustainability. I see a lot of common ground between issues here and potentially with EPC and 25 x 25; perhaps other endeavors as well.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Michael G Marsh for Ways and Means: This legislation would have established a joint study committee to determine whether or not to establish one or more taxes on the sources of pollution in the state, including carbon dioxide. Without passing judgment on the merits of the bill, the committee noted that there is a similar bill, HB 165, establishing a committee to study carbon reduction incentives, already before the Science, Technology, and Energy Committee. There is no need to establish two study committees, and the specifics of this bill will be considered as part of HB 165. Vote 16-0.</p>									

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
HB 356	Rep. DeChane, Straf 3; Rep. Wheeler, Merr 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Chris	AN ACT relative to requiring a comprehensive impact report before a municipality approves or disapproves a proposed development project.				3/21/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
<p>2/22/07: Chris attended the hearing. Rep. DeChane was not there so co-sponsor Rep. Wheeler introduced the bill. She is doing this at the request of a constituent and knows nothing of the bill's content and therefore cannot answer any questions. She had to leave right away to attend another hearing. Kendall Buck, Gary Abbott and Cordell Johnston all spoke in opposition. This is an unnecessary duplication of the planning board's existing authority. Concerns that this will drive up the cost of housing and other development since the costs for providing such an impact report will likely be born by the developer. The bill is not clear as to what will actually be done as a result of the report. This blurs the line between the governing body and the planning board.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Jessie L Osborne for Municipal and County Government: Currently all land use issues in the municipalities are under the jurisdiction of the planning, zoning and conservation committees. HB 356 would authorize the governing body of a municipality to require comprehensive impact reports. By adding another set of regulations, the cost of development in New Hampshire will increase and affordable housing for New Hampshire citizens would be more out of reach than it is right now. The land use boards already have the tools they need to request any impact studies and they do request them. If the governing body is authorized to make land use decisions then the fundamental purpose for land use boards to deal with development is undermined. The committee felt that this was not an appropriate change to the planning and zoning processes. Vote 16-0.</p>									
HB 361	Rep. Kaen, Straf 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Amy	AN ACT relative to technical changes in certain laws governing public utilities.				Signed by the Governor on 05/11/07; Eff. Date 05/11/07; Chapter 0025
<p>HB361</p> <p>STE voted to pass an amended version of the bill that clarifies some ambiguous terms in existing statutes and authorizes OCA to retain an expert witness for the Fairpoint/Verizon case. Vote 15-0</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.</p> <p>Rep. Naida L Kaen for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill includes several minor/technical changes to statutes relating to public utilities, including: simplifying the definition of energy facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Site Evaluation Committee; removing criminal penalties for violations of certain statutes and Public Utilities Commission (PUC) orders and rules; updating the state's "Dig Safe" law governing excavations near utility facilities; and allowing the PUC to establish certain standards required by the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005. More significantly, the bill authorizes a one-time special assessment of up to \$150,000 against Verizon, and FairPoint for the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) to hire expert consultants on behalf of residential ratepayers in the proposed acquisition of Verizon's New Hampshire landline assets by FairPoint. Current law allows the PUC to make a special assessment for such a case, but the OCA does not have such authority. The committee believes that this is an important case for the state and for ratepayers, and strongly supports this one-time assessment against the companies in this special case. Vote 15-0.</p>									
HB 379	Rep. M. Smith, Straf 7; Rep. Hopfgarten, Rock 5; Rep. Irwin, Hills 3; Rep. Patten, Carr 4; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the adoption, revision, and amendment of municipal charters.			S-P&MA	5/17/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 17, Pg.383
HB 380	Rep. M. Smith, Straf 7; Rep. Hopfgarten, Rock 5; Rep. Irwin, Hills 3; Rep. Patten, Carr 4; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the forms of government under town charters.			S-P&MA	5/31/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 19, Pg.464

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
HB 383	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Powers, Rock 16; Rep. Beaulieu, Hills 17; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Jen C	(New Title) AN ACT relative to waterfront buffer and woodland buffer requirements in the comprehensive shoreland protection act.				Signed by the Governor on 06/29/07; Chapter 0267; I. Section 11 Effective 07/01/07; II. Section 12 Effective as Provided in Section 13; III. Section 13 Effective 06/29/07; IV. Remainder Effective 04/01/08
<p>3/8/2007 Hearing --- There was significant support for the bill in theory, however, all parties both committee and testifying, felt it needs significant revisions. DES recommended the permit by notification system be removed from the bill. The basal area calculation method would be replaced by a grid and point system that will disputably be better/easier. The impervious surface limits were disputed alternate tresholds offered were 10-20 rather than 20-30 %. Other felt it should be struck entirely. Bill sent to sub-committee for rewriting</p> <p>3/14/2007 Work Session --- DES presented a re-write of the bill to RR&D. Committee debated removing the Impervious Surface Requirements and requested DES provide sample plans depicting how the requirements would impact development. Second worksession (subcommittee) was held on 3/15/2007 where further revisions were made. DES will forward rewrites to Jen C.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.</p> <p>Rep. Donald A Brueggemann for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill is one of four bills recommended by the Shoreland Protection Commission. The bill simplifies and clarifies regulations regarding waterfront buffers, allowing property owners to more easily understand what activities may and may not be undertaken within this most sensitive shorefront area. This clarity will promote greater compliance. The first 50 feet from the shoreline is designated as the waterfront buffer and is subject to restrictions on the removal of ground cover and the cutting of trees. Within this area, an easily understood formula replaces a complicated method for calculating allowable alterations. The first 150 feet from the shoreline (including the waterfront buffer) is designated as the natural woodland buffer in which smaller areas must be maintained in an undisturbed state with the encouragement of other conservation measures. Lastly, for the first 250 feet from the shoreline (including the woodland buffer) the bill prescribes that no more than 20-30% of the total area may be covered with impervious surfaces, such as roofs, patios and most driveways. The majority of the committee felt this was a reasonable addition since the science indicates that watersheds are negatively affected by the disruption of as little as 10% of the area. Forest management and agriculture conducted in accordance with best management practices are exempted from these restrictions. The committee also looked at specific circumstances in order to be satisfied that these provisions do not constitute a taking, nor unreasonably restrict the ability of property owners to enjoy and develop their property. The committee believes HB 383 strikes a common sense balance between property rights and shoreland protection. Vote 18-1.</p>									
HB 390	Rep. Lasky, Hills 26; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Fargo, Straf 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Chris	AN ACT relative to review of developments of regional impact.				4/4/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA DIV 301-9
<p>Chris attended the 3/9/07 PH.</p> <p>Rep. Osborne intrduced the bill because none of the spossors were present.</p> <p>Glenn Greenwood from the RPC spoke in favor. They see about 4 DRI annually. This bill would require rpc's to develop guidelines for towns to use to help them determine if a development had potential for regional impact. There are probably many more developments that have the potential for regional impact than get determined by PB's simple because they lack guidance. The bill would also allow towns to charge developers for the cost of rpc review of any plans found to have the potential for regional impact. The regions need to do thses reviews in a timely manner and often have to drop other things in order to get this done.</p> <p>Steve Williams, NRPC, spoke in favor as did Rep. Tom Fargo.</p>									
HB 392	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Foose, Merr 1; Rep. Drisko, Hills 5; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT relative to the use of property held by the state of New Hampshire under an easement specifying low impact recreational use only.			S-EE&ED	6/6/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 20, Pg.509
<p>MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Suzanne H Gottling for the Majority of Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill addresses the problem of confusion around the use of the term "low impact recreational use." Under this bill, on any property or easement held by the state of New Hampshire which uses this term, it shall specifically mean "non-motorized recreation only." The amendment was included to assure that motorized vehicles may be used by the landowner or easement holder for an emergency or for property management. In addition, any easement in place prior to enactment of this bill remains unaffected. Vote 10-6.</p> <p>Rep. Harry C Merrow for the Minority of Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill as amended prevents the use of OHRV's as defined in RSA 215-A:1 on newly acquired property held by the state of New Hampshire or any agency of the state under an easement specifying low impact recreational use only. Currently, any restriction requested is defined by the land owner. This would put the requirement of removing an obstacle on the owner and also prevent him or her from riding on logging roads and other trails on his own property unless he or she thought to include this in the easement. This could also cut down on the number of landowners willing to give the state an easement. Although not part of this bill, what is really needed is to determine the definition of low impact.</p>									
HB 403	Rep. Kurk, Hills 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT establishing the Interstate 93 widening commission.				3/21/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 415	Rep. Theberge, Coos 4; Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. M. Allen, Rock 11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT establishing a geothermal assessment project.	1:00 PM	8/29/2007	H-FIN	7/25/2007 H Retained Bill - Division I Subcommittee Work Session: 8/29/07 1:00 PM LOB 212
OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Rep. John H Thomas for Science, Technology and Energy: The committee feels the issue of renewable energy is very important and any discovery or exploration of source is part of the overall issue. The state geologist brought forth a concern with the reporting date. The amendment takes care of that issue. Vote 14-0.									
HB 416	Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. B. Williams, Graf 8; Rep. Butcher, Ches 3; Rep. Weber, Ches 2; Rep. Owen, Merr 4; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT relative to mercury reduction.				7/5/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 07/03/07; Chapter 0279; I. Section 1 Effective 01/01/08; II. Remainder Effective 07/03/07
OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Rep. James G Phinizy for Environment and Agriculture: It is estimated that each year over 150 pounds of mercury are deposited in New Hampshire's solid waste landfills or incinerators. This bill bans the disposal of all mercury-added products, regardless of mercury content, in solid waste landfills, transfer stations and incinerators. Products such as mercury devices, switches, light bulbs and button batteries contribute to the toxicity of the waste stream. This bill will divert these products into a recycling program or will require disposal as a hazardous waste. Even though manufacturers are producing newer products with less mercury, there is still a cumulative effect. Also, it is particularly important to capture those products which are still in the public usage and which are high in mercury content. Industry and business are already required to recycle fluorescent light bulbs; it is only fitting, consistent and logical that New Hampshire residents follow the same standard. Vote 15-0.									
HB 447	Rep. Kaelin, Hills 4; Rep. C. Chase, Hills 2; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Jack	AN ACT relative to net energy metering.				6/20/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/18/07; Eff. Date 08/17/07; Chapter 0174
On 3/14 STE voted to pass a compromise version of the bill that allows systems up to 100 kwh/month to participate (limit has been 25 kwh, initial proposal was to increase to 150 kwh) and cap on the program overall at 1% of utility's load (now at .5%, initial proposal was to increase to 2%). Vote 15-0. ----- OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.									
Rep. Jacqueline A Cali-Pitts for Science, Technology and Energy: Current law permits electric customers to participate in a program to generate their own electricity while still remaining connected so as to receive electric service on an as-needed basis. When their own generation exceeds their own needs the excess is supplied to the grid and "the meter runs backwards." The participating customer pays for the net amount consumed. The bill as amended modifies the eligibility for net metering; it, very simply, encourages the use of alternative energy sources by modifying RSA 362 by raising the kilowatt hour limit from 25 to 100 as the maximum generation allowed for participation in the program. Vote 15-0.									
HB 457	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Fargo, Straf 4; Rep. Foose, Merr 1; Rep. Weed, Ches 3; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT allowing municipalities to restrict lawn watering during declared droughts.				6/26/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; Eff. Date 08/24/07; Chapter 0218
HB 460	Rep. Moody, Rock 12; Rep. Brueggemann, Merr 12; Rep. Tupper, Merr 6; Rep. Wall, Straf 7; Rep. Harvey, Hills 21; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to conservation restrictions to protect public water supplies.			S-EE&ED	6/6/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 20, Pg.511

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
HB 462	Rep. O'Connell, Hills 6; Rep. Tobin, Belk 2; Rep. B. Williams, Graf 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Chris	AN ACT relative to site plan review of agricultural operations.				3/27/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
<p>Chris attended the hearing on 3/9/07. No sponsors present so Rep. Patten introduced the bill on their behalf. Wayne Mann, President of the NH Farm Bureau spoke in favor. This bill amends several statutes and arises out of the Governor's Farm Viability Task Force Report. <http://agriculture.nh.gov/publications/documents/FVTFFinalReport9-12-06.pdf> It would add language to RSA 672:1 III-b to clarify that the spirit of RSA 672:1 applies to other governmental agencies and political bodies. It was suggested to be amended to read "be unreasonably limited." It would also add language to RSA 672:1 III-d to clarify that the spirit of RSA 672:1 applies to State agencies and political bodies and establish in RSA 674:43 IV that agricultural enterprises may be considered below the threshold for site plan review by nature. This change would enable towns to recognize that agriculture is a beneficial land use within the town, and strict conformity with site plan review regulations as applied to commercial development is inappropriate for review of farms and amend RSA 674:43 IV to clarify that towns may exempt farms from strict conformity with site plan review regulations. No other speakers either for or against.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p>									
<p>Rep. Anthony F Simon for Municipal and County Government: This bill would prevent agriculture from "being limited by other governmental agencies or political bodies." It would also effectively exempt agricultural operations from site plan review by a local planning board. The committee believes that the effect of these provisions is to improperly deny municipalities the authority to regulate an agricultural operation that could have a significant impact on a community. This destroys the careful balance that currently exists in state law that is designed to preserve and encourage agriculture in appropriate locations throughout the state. Vote 17-0.</p>									
HB 467	Rep. Ryan, Merr 2; Rep. McKenna, Rock 5; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Amy	AN ACT requiring the department of environmental services to develop a climate action plan and to report on global warming issues.			H-ST&E	4/5/2007 H Retained in Committee
HB 476	Rep. Weyler, Rock 8; Rep. Marshall Quandt, Rock 13; Rep. Matthew Quandt, Rock 13; Rep. Bettencourt, Rock 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to membership on the public utilities commission.				3/6/2007 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
<p>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.</p> <p>Rep. Gene F. Andersen for Science, Technology and Energy: Current law states that of the three commissioners to the public utility commission, one shall be an attorney and member of the New Hampshire bar and one shall have background or experience in one or more of the following: engineering, economics, accounting or finance. This bill would require that the commissioners be composed of: one attorney and member of the NH bar (no experiences noted for attorney), one engineer with experience with a public utility and one accountant (no experience noted for accountant). The bill's sponsors felt that these disciplines were necessary to do the job. The majority of the committee felt that it was experience and not just education that was the essential element for membership on the PUC and that staff will provide information required for educational disciplines. The majority feels strongly that we do not want to limit the field of candidates based on an educational requirement unrelated to a lifetime of experience and achievement. Vote 11-5.</p> <p>Committee report adopted.</p>									
HB 513	Rep. DeStefano, Merr 13; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Chris	AN ACT establishing a housing commission.				5/3/2007 S Sen. Sgambati Moved Laid On Table, MA, VV; SJ 15, Pg.332
<p>Chris attended the hearing on 2/13. No one spoke against the bill. There was a general recognition of the fact that NH is loosing their young professionals due to a lack of affordable housing. There are only 3 states in the US that are hemmoraging this demographic worst than NH. We have the high tech jobs and good quality of life but housing is the issue. High land prices and regulatory hurdles all contribute to the high cost but those are just some of the factors. It was mentioned that this bill is a companion to SB 217 introduced by Senator Fuller-Clark establishing the New Hampshire housing and conservation planning program within OEP and making an appropriation therefor.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS.</p> <p>Rep. Stephen T DeStefano for Commerce: This bill establishes a housing commission to identify ways the state can promote and encourage the development of affordable housing. With outflow of our young adults because of the cost of housing the state needs to find a way to generate affordable or workforce housing. This bill specifically recommends that state agencies provide improved technical assistance to local governments on housing related matters. The committee felt that this commission was very necessary. Vote 12-1.</p>									

BillNumber	Sponsors	Active Bill	Priority	Staff	Title	Time	Date	Comm	Status
HB 648	Rep. Hinkle, Hills 19; Rep. Emerton, Hills 7; Rep. Manney, Hills 7; Rep. Mack, Hills 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Joann	AN ACT establishing a commission to develop a comprehensive flood management plan.				6/20/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/18/07; I.Sec.6 Eff. 01/01/08; II.Remainder Eff. 06/18/07; Chapter 0179
<p>Fri 2/9/2007 3:06 PM</p> <p>Talked with Jen C. after the LMAC meeting today and they are writing a letter of support on this bill with several amendments, including that OEP be placed on the study committee. They also wanted comments from us on other concerns they have with this bill. I gave Jen my comments this afternoon and she is drafting a response to them. Given this development we should move this bill up from a 2 to a 1 and perhaps testify when it is scheduled for a hearing..... Hearing held with no opposition. Should probably pass with amendment.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.</p> <p>Rep. Donald A Brueggemann for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill establishes a commission to develop a comprehensive flood management plan. The commission is composed of six House members, three Senate members and various other interests. Duties include the study of measures to minimize flood impacts on community and personal property. The amendment adds a member and the duty to consider proper management of public water resources. Vote 17-0.</p>									
HB 663	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Foose, Merr 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Jen C.	AN ACT making an appropriation to implement the comprehensive shoreland protection act.				7/5/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/29/07; Chapter 0269; I. Section 1 Effective 04/01/08; II. Sections 7-8 Effective 07/01/11; III. Remainder Effective 07/01/07
<p>Need for additional staffing at DES was agreed on at the 2/13 hearing however there was concern over how or why this should be through general funds. Derek Durbin from the NH Lakes Association pointed out that the Cimmission's report recommended the additional staffing be funded through a permit fee system. Rene Pelletier of DES noted that DES did not have a preference, general funds vs. fee system, but noted that DES currently does not have authority to issue CSPA permits or assess a fee. This would require additional legislation. An amendment may be made to create the permit authority and modify the funding source.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>2/22/2007 - 9 am work session drafted an amendment to the bill that would establish a fee system of \$100 plus \$0.10 per SF of permitted affected area for new improvements. Executive Session held the same day approved the amendment 12 to 2 and Recommended the Bill OTP w/ amendment passing 14 to 3.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.</p> <p>Rep. Sid Lovett for Resources, Recreation and Development: The committee, in support of the recommendations of the commission studying the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, chose to recommend a permit fee process to fund the needed additional staff to manage the shoreland protection program. This is similar to the DES fee program for wetland protection. Enforcement and outreach is difficult with the current staff of only 2 persons. A permit program would also provide the landowner with notice of what actions can be taken within the 250 foot shoreland zone. Vote 14-3.</p>									
HB 665	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Weed, Ches 3; Rep. Foose, Merr 1; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. DeVries, Dist 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Jen C.	AN ACT relative to the comprehensive shoreland protection act.				5/24/2007 S Inexpedient to Legislate, MA, VV === BILL KILLED ===; SJ 18, Pg.414
<p>There was a lot of testimony both for and against this bill at the 3/8 hearing. The bill would remove from the CSPA the option for municipalities to have OEP certify a more restrictive local ordinance and exempt the muni from the CSPA. There were no objections to this portion of the bill. However, all testimony, and ultimate committee decision, that this bill required significant re-writing. One problem as written - DOT would be required to pay significant permit fees for road construction in the CSPA jurisdictional area. Bill sent to subcommittee for rewriting.</p> <p>3/15/2007 subcommittee worksession established revisions to bill. DES will forward bill rewrites to Jen C.</p> <p>3/20/2007 approved by RR & D "ought to pass" 18 - 1, amended to remove what was essentially an exemption for boat launches and roads</p> <p>-----</p> <p>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.</p> <p>Rep. Donald A Brueggemann for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill is one of four bills recommended by the Shoreland Protection Commission. The bill changes the method by which streams are classified, now using the New Hampshire hydrography data set, and clarifies the language in the definition of a “water dependent structure.” In addition, HB 665 repeals legislation that exempted towns which had adopted a shoreland protection ordinance and certain designated rivers and river segments from the application of this act. Lastly, this bill adds third order streams to those water bodies to be protected by the shoreland protection act on January 1, 2009. The committee feels that this latter is an important step, but that a delayed enactment would give the Department of Environmental Services time to prepare the necessary groundwork for its implementation. Vote 18-1.</p>									

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 689	Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. Almy, Graf 11; Rep. Essex, Hills 1; Rep. Harvey, Hills 21; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT establishing a commission to study production and distribution of biodiesel fuel in New Hampshire.				7/5/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 07/03/07; Eff. Date 07/03/07; Chapter 0283
OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.									
Rep. David A Borden for Science, Technology and Energy: Biodiesel, produced from vegetable oils and animal waste, potentially could replace 20% of the fossil fuels used in diesel and home heating oil in New Hampshire. The commission created by this bill will explore how New Hampshire farmers and businesses can develop local production facilities for biodiesel, and for distribution of this fuel to our residents. Vote 15-1.									
HB 694	Rep. Fargo, Straf 4; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Hofemann, Straf 6; Rep. Hutz, Straf 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT establishing a commission to study the feasibility of tidal power generation under the Little Bay and General Sullivan Bridges, in Dover.				6/26/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; Eff. Date 06/25/07; Chapter 0222
HB 694 On 3/14 STE subcommittee made minor amendments to the study commission's mandate and compensation and, at Amy's suggestion, deleted provisions for the commission to develop and review vendors' proposals for construction of a tidal energy facility. The concern: who would actually enter into such an RFP for the state? We have no power authority and have not vested such authority in any other agency. The commission could recommend legislation to allow the state to contract for such power in the future, but that's a significant policy decision that should be evaluated and not presumed. Unanimous vote. ----- OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.									
Rep. Thomas R Fargo for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill creates a 20-member commission to study the feasibility of tidal power generation, primarily under the Little Bay and General Sullivan bridges in Dover and Newington. Membership on the commission represents a diverse group of stakeholders representing the General Court, state and federal agencies, municipalities, non-governmental environmental protection and commercial fishing interests, and the University of New Hampshire. Duties include the review of permitting standards, the public's and business community's attitude toward the project, environmental and wildlife impacts, and the costs and benefits of the project. The commission may, by 2/3 majority vote, expand its review to power generation at other appropriate infrastructure under New Hampshire jurisdiction. Vote 16-0.									
HB 710	Rep. Millham, Belk 5; Rep. Cloutier, Sull 4; Rep. Benn, Graf 9; Rep. Bouchard, Merr 11; Sen. Sgambati, Dist 4; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT establishing a commission to study issues relative to the practice of leasing state-owned real estate on the shores of public waters.				6/28/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/28/07; Eff. Date 06/28/07; Chapter 0254
3/12/2007 Public Hearing --- Jen C attended for Amy to answer any CORD related questions. Bill was supported by all parties who welcome a study commission. Testimony requested additional representatives to the commission including Safety, Long Range, existing lease holder, etc.									
3/14/2007 Worksession -- Jen C attended to answer questions. Committee had none and will proceed, assume with amendments to address testimony, since there was no opposition.									
3/20/2007 passed RR&D 16-0 and is on to the House consent calendar									
3/27/2007 H Removed from Consent Calendar (Rep Rausch)									
3/28/2007 H Special Order to April 4: regular place on calendar without objection									
4/4/2007 H Rules Suspension: Deadline on action for bills not in 2nd comm: MA VV necessary 2/3									
4/4/2007 H Special Order to April 5 without objection									
HB 722	Rep. O'Connell, Hills 6; Rep. Powers, Rock 16; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Jen C.	AN ACT relative to the rivers management protection program.				7/5/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 07/03/07; Eff. Date 09/01/07; Chapter 0285

<i>BillNumber</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 726	Rep. Peterson, Hills 3; Sen. Kenney, Dist 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT establishing land and community heritage investment program number plates.				3/27/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
HB 736	Rep. Kurk, Hills 7; Rep. Patten, Carr 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to administrative enforcement of certain violations of municipal ordinances.				3/27/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
HB 747	Rep. Hopfgarten, Rock 5; Rep. Lund, Rock 5; Rep. Renzullo, Hills 27	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the special meeting requirements for municipalities.				3/27/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
HB 751	Rep. Essex, Hills 1; Rep. C. Chase, Hills 2; Rep. Borden, Rock 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Mark	AN ACT relative to biodiesel road toll revenue.				3/6/07 Inexpedient to Legislate, MA VV
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Rep. Thomas R Fargo for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill requires the road toll administrator to estimate the road toll paid on biodiesel used for off-road purposes and pay that amount into a biodiesel development fund. The committee unanimously agreed that insufficient data are available to accurately estimate the amount of biodiesel used off-road, although estimates suggested that the fund would receive less than \$10,000 annually. In addition, the bill lacked clarity on how the biodiesel development fund would be used. While the intent of the bill was to promote a greater use of biodiesel for environmental benefits, the committee recognized that existing incentive programs could be enhanced to serve that purpose. Vote 14-0.									
HB 768	Rep. Schmidt, Straf 4; Rep. Fargo, Straf 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT relative to voluntary registration with the Eastern Climate Registry.				6/26/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; Eff. Date 08/24/07; Chapter 0226
HB 813	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Hamm, Merr 4; Rep. Hager, Merr 12; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT expanding the definition of income of the land conservation investment program monitoring endowment.				6/20/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/18/07; Eff. Date 08/17/07; Chapter 0151
On 3/8, in the space of 20 minutes, Resources went from 1) no opposition to 2) appearing ready to reject the bill to 3) lauding OEP for its vision in bringing the bill forward. Voted Ought to Pass, unanimous. ----- OUGHT TO PASS.									
Rep. Sid Lovett for Resources, Recreation and Development: Replacing the terms “revenue” and “interest” with the term “income” as it applies to RSA 162-C:8 helps the Department of Treasury to better manage the portfolio of the endowment of the Land Conservation Investment Program (a land protection program that preceded LCHIP). Vote 18-0.									
HB 837	Rep. O'Connell, Hills 6; Rep. B. Williams, Graf 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to easements and the land and community heritage investment program.			H-RR&D	4/3/2007 H Retained in Committee
HB 855	Rep. Kaelin, Hills 4; Rep. C. Chase, Hills 2; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT relative to renewable energy generation incentive payments.			H-ST&E	3/22/07 Retained in Committee
HB855 On 3/12 witnesses identified problems with bill, major concern being the raiding of energy efficiency monies from the System Benefits Charge. As much as we support renewables, it should not be at the expense of efficiency, particularly when the RPS will provide significant benefits to renewable industry.									

<i>BillNumber</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 857	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Powers, Rock 16; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Jen C	AN ACT relative to permitting responsibilities under the comprehensive shoreland protection act.				Inexpedient to Legislate, MA, VV === BILL KILLED
3/14/2007 Public Hearing --- Like other CSPA bills this was predominantly supported in theory but will require significant re-writes. As drafted the bill creates several conflicts with other CSPA provisions. This bill will create a permit system to accompany permit fee amendment to HB 663.									
3/15/2007 subcommittee worksession established revisions to bill. DES will forward bill rewrites to Jen C.									
3/20/2007 approved by RR & D "ought to pass" 18 - 1									

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.									
Rep. Donald A Brueggemann for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill is one of four bills recommended by the Shoreland Protection Commission. This bill clarifies permitting responsibilities under the comprehensive shoreland protection act. It is not uncommon for individuals to be unaware of what activities require a state permit and this bill clearly identifies those activities. In particular, an approval by a municipality is sometimes interpreted as a go-ahead for a project when state approval is also required. This bill clarifies that municipalities do not have the authority to offer waivers or variances to state shoreland regulations. The amendment clarifies language, adds a definition for nonconforming lots and structures and specifies what activities would not necessitate a permit under this act. Vote 18-1.									
HB 863	Rep. Infantine, Hills 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the assessment of property subject to a housing subsidy restriction.				4/4/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA DIV 317-4
HB 866	Rep. Wall, Straf 7; Rep. Dokmo, Hills 6; Rep. Espiefs, Ches 3; Rep. Stohl, Coos 1; Rep. Kaen, Straf 7; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the right-to-know law application to board of tax and land appeals and public utilities commission matters.				6/20/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/18/07; Eff. Date 06/18/07; Chapter 0154
HB 868	Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Kurk, Hills 7; Rep. Foose, Merr 1; Rep. Hager, Merr 12; Rep. Shurtleff, Merr 10; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to a surcharge on recording documents with the register of deeds to fund the land and community heritage investment program.	3:00 PM	5/22/2007	H-M&CG	5/16/2007 H Full Committee Work Session: 5/22/2007 3:00 PM LOB 202
HB 873	Rep. Harvey, Hills 21; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. J. Garrity, Rock 6; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Bragdon, Dist 11	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT establishing minimum renewable standards for energy portfolios.				5/14/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 05/11/07; Sec. 1-5 Eff. 07/10/07; Remainder Eff. 05/11/07; Chapter 0026
On 3/8 Amy testified in favor. Jack attending numerous work sessions, resolving as many of the open issues as possible, fairly good stakeholder support at this point.									
HB 877	Rep. Morrison, Belk 2; Rep. C. Chase, Hills 2; Rep. Beaulieu, Hills 17; Rep. Tobin, Belk 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT relative to the state recycling program.	9:30 AM	5/31/2007	H-E&A	5/31/2007 H Subcommittee Work Session: 6/5/2007 9:30 AM LOB 305

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 879	Rep. Fargo, Straf 4; Rep. L. Brown, Straf 3; Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Tupper, Merr 6; Sen. Estabrook, Dist 21	<input type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT relative to establishing a conservation agent program within the department of environmental services.				3/27/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE									
Rep. Timothy D O'Connell for Environment and Agriculture: The committee is in concurrence that HB 879 is unwarranted. It is the opinion of the committee that our local building inspectors working with the Department of Environmental Services through the permitting process provides the necessary monitoring and compliance with permits issued on development sites. Testimony also was brought forth that most problems arise on sites where no permit was obtained. In addition, the fiscal note indicates that the bill would have significant impact on other state agencies, counties, and municipalities. Furthermore, DES indicates annual operating expenditures of over \$400.000. Vote 16-0.									
HB 880	Rep. Owen, Merr 4; Rep. C. Chase, Hills 2; Rep. B. Richardson, Ches 5; Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT requiring the department of resources and economic development to implement a feasibility study for the production of alternative forms of energy using natural resources of the state of New Hampshire and making an appropriation therefor.				3/27/07 Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
HB 880 On 3/12 Jack testified on the problems with the bill. Appears headed to an ITL vote. -----									
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.									
Rep. John H Thomas for Science, Technology and Energy: The issues in this bill are encompassed in HB 467 which was passed by this committee. The bill is too explicit and restrictive as to who is to do the study. The Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) does not support the bill. There is no fiscal note. Vote 17-0.									
HB 907	Rep. Phinizy, Sull 5; Rep. Owen, Merr 4; Rep. Butcher, Ches 3; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT relative to the sale, distribution, and disposal of certain mercury-added products.				Signed by the Governor on 06/11/07; Eff. Date 08/10/07; Chapter 0105
OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.									
Rep. James G Phinizy for Environment and Agriculture: This bill phases out the sale of certain types of mercury-added products such as measuring devices, thermometers, flow meters, switches, relays and thermostats. These products contribute large amounts of mercury to the solid waste stream when they are discarded and all have existing, economical, non-mercury substitutes already on the market. The bill exempts replacement switches and relays used in existing equipment, as well as those products mandated by federal requirement. The bill also contains an exemption process for mercury-added products that have no alternatives on the market. Products such as fluorescent light bulbs and button batteries are not affected by this bill. Vote 15-0.									
HB 917	Rep. Harding, Graf 11; Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. J. Thomas, Belk 5; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT establishing a commission to study implementing a statewide emergency communications system.				6/26/2007 H Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; Eff. Date 06/25/07; Chapter 0229
HB 924	SPONSORS: Rep. Owen, Merr 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the deconstruction of buildings.	11:00 AM	6/5/2007	H-E&A	5/29/2007 H Subcommittee Work Session: 6/5/2007 11:00 AM LOB 303
HR 9	Rep. S. Merrick, Coos 2; Rep. Harvey, Hills 21; Rep. Ryan, Merr 2; Rep. Fontas, Hills 24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2		A RESOLUTION supporting the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.				4/5/2007 H Ought to Pass: MA DIV 183-90

<i>BillNumber</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
SB 035	Sen. Gatsas, Dist 16; Sen. Barnes, Dist 17; Sen. Kenney, Dist 3; Sen. Gallus, Dist 1; Sen. Roberge, more...	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		(2nd New Title) making an appropriation for disaster relief assistance in response to the May 2006 and April 2007 floods and establishing a committee to study the distribution of financial disaster assistance.				7/20/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/16/07; Eff. Date 07/16/07, Chapter 0334
SB 058	Sen. Kenney, Dist 3; Sen. Barnes, Dist 17; Rep. Belanger, Rock 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the recommendation for the town budget.				7/20/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/13/07; Eff. Date 09/11/07, Chapter 0305
SB 062	Sen. Clegg, Dist 14; Sen. Gatsas, Dist 16; Sen. Letourneau, Dist 19; Sen. Roberge, Dist 9; Rep. Infantine, Hills 13; Rep. Marshall Quandt, Rock 13; Rep. Patten, Carr 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to penalties for violations of the state building code.			S-P&MA	3/15/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 8, Pg.112
SB 071	Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Odell, Dist 8; Rep. Tupper, Merr 6; Rep. Powers, Rock 16; Rep. Drisko, Hills 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to setback requirements for new landfills located near designated rivers.				7/20/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/13/07; Eff. Date 09/11/07, Chapter 0308
SB 075	Sen. Gottesman, Dist 12; Sen. Foster, Dist 13; Sen. Bragdon, Dist 11; Sen. DeVries, Dist 18; Rep. Harvey, Hills 21; Rep. Lasky, Hills 26; Rep. D. Cote, Hills 23; Rep. Campbell, Hills 24; Rep. Rosenwald, Hills 22	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		(2nd New Title) relative to establishing a New Hampshire rail transit authority that will have responsibility for developing and providing commuter rail and related public rail transportation services in New Hampshire.				7/23/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/17/07; Eff. Date 07/17/07, Chapter 0360
SB 099	Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to the terms for payment in lieu of taxes for renewable generation facilities.				6/12/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 06/11/07; Eff. Date 08/10/07, Chapter 0113
SB 119	Sen. Kenney, Dist 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT establishing a committee to study the oversight of municipal capital reserve funds.				5/31/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
SB 140	Sen. Letourneau, Dist 19; Sen. Gallus, Dist 1; Sen. Odell, Dist 8; Rep. Theberge, Coos 4; Rep. Remick, Coos 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		(New Title) relative to transmission upgrades, the process for siting renewable generation facilities, and the study of demand response programs and distributed generation.				7/23/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/17/07; Eff. Date 07/17/07, Chapter 0364
SB 157	Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Ahlgren, Carr 4; Rep. Bouchard, Merr 11; Rep. P. McMahon, Merr 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	2		AN ACT establishing a commission to study the barriers to the establishment of all-terrain vehicle trails on public and private lands.				Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV

<i>Bill</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
SB 176	Sen. DeVries, Dist 18; Sen. Barnes, Dist 17; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Estabrook, Dist 21; Sen. Foster, Dist 13; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7; Sen. Kelly, (more->)	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to lead paint poisoning and establishing a commission to study the current childhood lead poisoning prevention law, policies, and standards.				7/13/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/12/07; Eff. dates Sections 10-14 07/12/07; 7/13/2007 S Remainder Eff. 01/01/08, Chapter 0293
SB 177	Sen. Reynolds, Dist 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to orders of reparation by the public utilities commission.			S-EE&ED	4/12/2007 S Sen. Fuller Clark Moved Rerefer to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 12, Pg.275
SB 196	Sen. Reynolds, Dist 2; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Rep. Essex, Hills 1; Rep. Owen, Merr 4; Rep. B. Williams, Graf 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Amy	AN ACT establishing the position of director of climate change in the office of energy and planning.			S-EE&ED	4/5/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV
On 3/12, committee agreed, at Amy's urging, to clarify that the position would not be full time, in order not to pull someone off from other duties. Bill may be further amended to characterize the position as a contact person to coordinate all climate change activities. Sen. Barnes recommended bill instead become a joint resolution to Congress on the importance of the issue. Amy stated we could live with any of these approaches, or ITL provided there is a strong statement on the significance of the issue but the work is taking place without the need for legislation.									
SB 199	Sen. DeVries, Dist 18; Sen. Reynolds, Dist 2; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Rep. Peterson, Hills 3; Rep. Hager, Merr 12; Rep. Nordgren, Graf 9; (more . .)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT relative to the assessment of property subject to a housing subsidy restriction.			S-P&MA	3/22/07 Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 9, Pg.170
Jen C attended the 3/8 hearing for Joanne. The committee voted 5-0 to re-refer the bill so the committee may work on developing a formula to be used by assessors for subsidized affordable housing. The bill received positive comments both from committee members and those there to testify.									
SB 208	Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Sen. Roberge, Dist 9; Rep. Bridgham, Carr 2; Rep. Stohl, Coos 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT relative to court review of certain planning and zoning decisions.				5/31/2007 H Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
SB 217	Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Janeway, Dist 7; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Sen. Kenney, Dist 3; Sen. Odell, Dist 8; Sen. Hassan, Dist 23; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Marsh, Rock 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		(New Title) establishing the New Hampshire housing and conservation planning program.				7/20/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 07/16/07; Eff. Date 07/01/07, Chapter 0348
SB 217 On 3/8, committee took testimony in support of bill (Amy walked them through the provisions and made a pitch for passage). Sponsor introduced amendment to bring funding to the level of Governor's budget (\$200,000/year; \$400,000 for the biennium). There was no opposition. Voted Ought to Pass as amended, unanimous.									

<i>BillNumber</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Active Bill</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>
SB 219	Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Sen. Burling, Dist 5; Sen. Cilley, Dist 6; Sen. Kenney, Dist 3; Rep. Spang, Straf 7; Rep. Cali-Pitts, Rock 16; Rep. Foster, Hills 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		(2nd New Title) establishing a committee to study the effectiveness of current preservation planning tools designed to prevent unnecessary demolitions of significant historic properties and recommend new incentives to aid communities, improvements to existing methods, or creation of new programs.				6/26/2007 S Signed by the Governor on 06/25/07; Eff. Date 06/25/07, Chapter 0238
SB 227	Sen. Kenney, Dist 3; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Rep. Crane, Hills 21; Rep. Knox, Carr 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		AN ACT authorizing land and community heritage investment program donations accompanying motor vehicle registrations.				4/5/2007 S Sen. D'Allesandro Moved Laid on Table RC 14Y-10N, MA; SJ 11, Pg.247
SB 247	Sen. DeVries, Dist 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT establishing a committee to study the adjudication of land use issues and ordinance violations.				Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV
SB 259	Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 24; Rep. Borden, Rock 18; Rep. Cali-Pitts, Rock 16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		AN ACT establishing state appliance and equipment energy efficiency standards.			S-EE&ED	4/12/2007 S Rereferred to Committee, MA, VV; SJ 12, Pg.275
SCR 001	Sen. Reynolds, Dist 2; Sen. Burling, Dist 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	3		A RESOLUTION declaring a state of emergency in the town of Dorchester during the March 2006 floods.				2/15/2007 S Sen. Gatsas Moved Laid on Table MA, VV; SJ 4, Pg.61